

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/N/TPKM/95

17 December 2010

(10-6790)

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>THE SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, PENGHU, KINMEN AND MATSU</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):
2.	Agency responsible: The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI) Ministry of Economic Affairs 4 Chinan Road, Section 1, Taipei, 100, Taiwan Telephone: (886 2) 3343 5101 Fax: (886 2) 2392 2402 E-mail: b022p1@bsmi.gov.tw Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:
3.	Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], other:
4.	Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Eraser commodities (HS/CCCN 3926.10.00.00.3; 4016.92.00.00.3)
5.	Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Public Notice under the Commodity Inspection Act (2 pages in Chinese, English translation available).
6.	Description of content: Phthalates are toxic substances that may be found in soft PVC, a type of plastic which is also used in the manufacturing of erasers. Concerns have been raised by consumers about the hazard of children's exposure to phthalates by licking and chewing erasers. Based on a project performed by the BSMI on marketed erasers in 2010, a high phthalates level was detected and the labels did not show where they were manufactured. The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), after having consulted with interested parties, intends to regulate the chemical materials and physical performance of erasers, including the prohibition of use of phthalates (DBP, BBP, DEHP, DNOP, DINP and DIDP) (the concentration level shall be less than 0.1%).
7.	Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: Consumer protection
8.	Relevant documents: The Commodity Inspection Act, CNS 6856.

9.	Proposed date of adoption: 1 January 2011 Proposed date of entry into force: 1 July 2011
10.	Final date for comments: 30 days from date of notification
11.	Text available from: National enquiry point [X], or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and website addresses, if available of the other body: WTO/TBT Enquiry Point The Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection Ministry of Economic Affairs 4 Chinan Road, Section 1, Taipei, 100, Taiwan Telephone: (886 2) 3343 5140 Fax: (886 2) 2343 1804 E-mail: tbteng@bsmi.gov.tw And can be downloaded at: http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2010/tbt/TPKM/10_4634_00_e.pdf